

SSB 5499 - S AMD TO S AMD (KAST HESS 012)109
By Senator McCaslin

1 On page 6, after line 38 of the amendment, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 4. RCW 29A.08.125 and 2003 c 111 s 209 are each amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (1) Each county auditor shall maintain a computer file containing
5 the records of all registered voters within the county. The auditor
6 may provide for the establishment and maintenance of such files by
7 private contract or through interlocal agreement as provided by chapter
8 39.34 RCW. The computer file must include, but not be limited to, each
9 voter's last name, first name, middle initial, date of birth, residence
10 address, gender, date of registration, applicable taxing district and
11 precinct codes, and the last date on which the individual voted.

12 (2) County election officials shall randomly investigate the record
13 of all registered voters within the county contained on the official
14 statewide voter registration list for that county, to make corrections
15 in the record regarding persons who are deceased or whose residence
16 differs from that on the official statewide voter registration list.

17 (3) The county auditor shall subsequently record each consecutive
18 date upon which the individual has voted and retain at least the last
19 five such consecutive dates. If the voter has not voted at least five
20 times since establishing his or her current registration record, only
21 the available dates will be included.

22 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.08.125 and 2004 c 267 s 110 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1) Each county auditor shall maintain a computer file containing
25 a copy of each record of all registered voters within the county
26 contained on the official statewide voter registration list for that
27 county.

28 (2) County election officials shall randomly investigate the record
29 of all registered voters within the county contained on the official
30 statewide voter registration list for that county, to make corrections

1 in the record regarding persons who are deceased or whose residence
2 differs from that on the official statewide voter registration list.

3 (3) The computer file must include, but not be limited to, each
4 voter's last name, first name, middle initial, date of birth, residence
5 address, gender, date of registration, applicable taxing district and
6 precinct codes, and the last date on which the individual voted.

7 (4) The county auditor shall subsequently record each consecutive
8 date upon which the individual has voted and retain all such
9 consecutive dates.

10 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29A.08.605 and 2003 c 111 s 236 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 In addition to the case-by-case maintenance required under RCW
13 29A.08.620 and 29A.08.630 (~~and~~), the canceling of registrations under
14 RCW 29A.08.510, and the random investigation required under RCW
15 29A.08.125, the county auditor shall establish a general program of
16 voter registration list maintenance. This program must be a thorough
17 review that is applied uniformly throughout the county and must be
18 nondiscriminatory in its application. Any program established must be
19 completed at least once every two years and not later than ninety days
20 before the date of a primary or general election for federal office.
21 The county may fulfill its obligations under this section in one of the
22 following ways:

23 (1) The county auditor may enter into one or more contracts with
24 the United States postal service, or its licensee, which permit the
25 auditor to use postal service change-of-address information. If the
26 auditor receives change of address information from the United States
27 postal service that indicates that a voter has changed his or her
28 residence address within the county, the auditor shall transfer the
29 registration of that voter and send a confirmation notice informing the
30 voter of the transfer to the new address. If the auditor receives
31 postal change of address information indicating that the voter has
32 moved out of the county, the auditor shall send a confirmation notice
33 to the voter and advise the voter of the need to reregister in the new
34 county. The auditor shall place the voter's registration on inactive
35 status;

36 (2) A direct, nonforwardable, nonprofit or first-class mailing to
37 every registered voter within the county bearing the postal endorsement
38 "Return Service Requested." If address correction information for a

1 voter is received by the county auditor after this mailing, the auditor
2 shall place that voter on inactive status and shall send to the voter
3 a confirmation notice;

4 (3) Any other method approved by the secretary of state.

5 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29A.08.605 and 2004 c 267 s 128 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 In addition to the case-by-case maintenance required under RCW
8 29A.08.620 and 29A.08.630 (~~and~~), the canceling of registrations under
9 RCW 29A.08.510, and the random investigation required under RCW
10 29A.08.125, the secretary of state and the county auditor shall
11 cooperatively establish a general program of voter registration list
12 maintenance. This program must be a thorough review that is applied
13 uniformly throughout the county and must be nondiscriminatory in its
14 application. Any program established must be completed at least once
15 every two years and not later than ninety days before the date of a
16 primary or general election for federal office. This obligation may be
17 fulfilled in one of the following ways:

18 (1) The secretary of state may enter into one or more contracts
19 with the United States postal service, or its licensee, which permit
20 the use of postal service change-of-address information. If the change
21 of address information is received from the United States postal
22 service that indicates that a voter has changed his or her residence
23 address within the state, the auditor shall transfer the registration
24 of that voter and send a confirmation notice informing the voter of the
25 transfer to the new address;

26 (2) A direct, nonforwardable, nonprofit or first-class mailing to
27 every registered voter bearing the postal endorsement "Return Service
28 Requested." If address correction information for a voter is received
29 by the county auditor after this mailing, the auditor shall place that
30 voter on inactive status and shall send to the voter a confirmation
31 notice;

32 (3) Any other method approved by the secretary of state.

33 **Sec. 8.** RCW 29A.08.651 and 2004 c 267 s 101 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 (1) The office of the secretary of state shall create and maintain
36 a statewide voter registration data base. This data base must be a
37 single, uniform, official, centralized, interactive computerized

1 statewide voter registration list defined, maintained, and administered
2 at the state level that contains the name and registration information
3 of every legally registered voter in the state and assigns a unique
4 identifier to each legally registered voter in the state.

5 (2) The computerized list must serve as the single system for
6 storing and maintaining the official list of registered voters
7 throughout the state.

8 (3) The computerized list must contain the name and registration
9 information of every legally registered voter in the state.

10 (4) Under the computerized list, a unique identifier is assigned to
11 each legally registered voter in the state.

12 (5) The computerized list must be coordinated with other agency
13 data bases within the state, including but not limited to the
14 department of corrections, the department of licensing, and the
15 department of health.

16 (6) Any election officer in the state, including any local election
17 officer, may obtain immediate electronic access to the information
18 contained in the computerized list.

19 (7) All voter registration information obtained by any local
20 election officer in the state must be electronically entered into the
21 computerized list on an expedited basis at the time the information is
22 provided to the local officer.

23 (8) The chief state election officer shall provide support, as may
24 be required, so that local election officers are able to enter
25 information as described in subsection (3) of this section.

26 (9) The computerized list serves as the official voter registration
27 list for the conduct of all elections.

28 (10) The secretary of state has data authority on all voter
29 registration data.

30 (11) The voter registration data base must be designed to
31 accomplish at a minimum, the following:

32 (a) Comply with the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-252);

33 (b) Identify duplicate voter registrations;

34 (c) Identify suspected duplicate voters;

35 (d) Screen against the department of corrections data base to aid
36 in the cancellation of voter registration of felons;

37 (e) Provide up-to-date signatures of voters for the purposes of
38 initiative signature checking;

1 (f) Provide current and accurate voter registration information
2 using information obtained under RCW 29A.08.125;

3 (g) Provide for a comparison between the voter registration data
4 base and the department of licensing change of address data base;

5 ((~~g~~)) (h) Provide online access for county auditors with the goal
6 of real time duplicate checking and update capabilities; and

7 ((~~h~~)) (i) Provide for the cancellation of voter registration for
8 persons who have moved to other states and surrendered their Washington
9 state drivers' licenses."

10 Renumber the sections following consecutively and correct internal
11 references accordingly.

12 On page 20, after line 15, insert the following:

13 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 25. Sections 4 and 6 of this act expire
14 January 1, 2006.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 26. Sections 5, 7, and 8 of this act take
16 effect January 1, 2006."

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20 On page 20, on line 21 of the title amendment, after "29A.04.611",
21 insert "29A.08.125, 29A.08.125, 29A.08.605, 29A.08.651,"

« END ---

EFFECT: Requires that county elections officials randomly
investigate the registered voter list and make corrections.